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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Paraguay

DATE DISTR. 23 February 1949

SUBJECT Continuing Political Unrest in Paraguay

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1. On 17 February 1949, at a meeting attended by the Colorado party junta, all military commanders of Asuncion, including General Mutshuito Villasboa, Lieutenant Colonel Adalberto Canata, and Colonel Rogelio Benitez, and officers from the Chaco, the military announced their desire that Paraguayan Provisional President General Raimundo Rolon continue as president. Federico Chaves, leader of the democratic sector of the Colorado party, rejoined that now that the party has been unified, which was the purpose of the 30 January coup d'etat, and has chosen to support Felipe Molas Lopez, the military is not qualified to select the government.
2. The situation is extremely tense and armed conflict can be expected at any moment. The Colorados hope to gain support among the Colorado captains and lieutenants in the armed forces as well as in some sections of the police.
3. The Colorados have been distributing police arms to Colorado civilians.

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